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INDETERMINATE SENTENCE

The Reformatory reports 4,670 men paroled, of whom 2,666 have been discharged, the sentence of 295 expired during the parole period, 609 violated their parole and were returned to prison, 589 parole violators are at large, 78 died and 433 are reporting. Their financial reports indicate earnings amounting to \$1,315,642.76; expenses, \$1,143,075.54; savings, \$172,564.22.

The Woman's Prison reports 213 women paroled, of whom 105 have been discharged, the sentence of 23 expired during the parole period, 35 violated their parole and were returned to prison, 26 parole violators are at large, 7 died and 17 are reporting. Their financial reports indicate earnings amounting to \$3,473.86; expenses, \$1,793.19; savings, \$1,680.67.

AMOS W. BUTLER,

Secretary State Board of Charities, Indianapolis.

Antonelli on the Indeterminate Sentence.—"Le garanzia del Diritti individuali e di famiglia a tempo indeterminato," a subject chosen by Ferri for the "Scuola d'applicazione giuridico-criminali" of Rome, on the indeterminate sentence, is applied to an article by Rodolfo Antonelli, of that school, in the July-August number of *Il Progresso del Diritto Criminale*. As might be expected from the school of the author, and the name of the chooser of the subject, the article is marked by most positivistic tendencies. The *Scuola positiva* and *Sociologia criminali* are the most often cited authorities. The essay takes up the question of the indeterminate sentence from a positivistic standpoint, and finds it in every way to be recommended. He lauds it in its individual, family and social phases, and states that it best fulfills the curative function of punishment from the juridical, moral and economic standpoints. Under the two later phases, the author deals with prison-farms and prison labor, both of which he believes to be necessary reforms. He further believes in an absolutely indeterminate sentence, that is, in the abolition of the minimum and maximum.

Without a translation, it would be impossible to take up his reasons and the details of his plan. His last section, however, in the short span of a review, may well be given in full:

"Substitute for the vagueness of moral responsibility the natural responsibility of the physico-psychic constitution of the delinquent; for the concept of punishment that of cure.

"Enlarge the scope of social responsibility for prevention, cure and possible extirpation of the disease of crime by the system of indeterminate sentence.

"Give the prisoner in place of useless days spent in solitary confinement with its hypothetical cure through introspection, the open air, sun and toil.

"Apply to those whom the ancient Romans called "furiosi," segregational and curative methods.

"Give the family more direct means of communication with the prisoner by means of frequent letters less censored by the prison authorities—letters of the greatest importance for psychology, which are of great weight in avoiding the pests of prison life, prostitution and adultery.

"Give the prison authorities a right to act as a pardon board.

"Make every prisoner work according to his age and physical power.

"Have medical specialists.

"Let the prisoner's work support him and his family, and repair the damage of his crime.

LYNCHINGS DURING 1913

"Make provision for the ex-convict.

"Such means will afford sufficient protection for the individual, his family and society under a system of absolutely indeterminate sentence—at least, in the present economic condition of society."

J. L.

Prison Baseball at the Massachusetts Reformatory.—Prison baseball has been in vogue in Massachusetts prisons for more than a generation. It is encouraging to see those upon whom the law has placed its seal of degradation enjoy themselves in the pursuit of our national pastime. Here we have no umpire baiting. We have an ideal baseball game without any unnecessary kicking and fighting. The umpire is a prisoner, and so are the scorers and all the players. And playing is really first class, when we consider the lack of practice due to confinement. The base running is somewhat below the average of a good team in the outside world. The battery work I consider good; the out-fielding is all that can be desired and the only radical defect in the playing is a little weak infield playing. The scoring of the games would do credit to Foster, O. P. Gaylor and other great baseball scribes to whom our national game is a scientific study. The applause is hearty from the prison audience. Credit for good playing is freely given along with criticism for "bonehead" plays. The players enter heartily into the spirit of the game and in this manner the game is a great help to enforce prison discipline. The ball playing is better in reformatories than in state penitentiaries, because in the reformatories youthful offenders are confined. The inmates there average in age from 15 to 35 years, whereas in the state prisons the inmates are of more mature years, and consequently much slower in an athletic way, and the ball played by old offenders is neither as fast nor as good as that delivered by the youthful inmate.

JOSEPH MATTHEW SULLIVAN, Boston, Mass.

STATISTICS.

Lynchings During 1913.—"In the year that has just passed fifty-one persons, all colored save one, were put to death by mobs. The number of persons lynched in 1913 was thirteen less than the number, sixty-four, for the year 1912. In fact, this is the smallest number of lynchings for any one year since a record of lynchings has been kept. This is gratifying and indicates the possibility of a time when, throughout the length and breadth of this land of ours, no individual will be put to death without due process of law. If all the people, white and black, will work together in a courageous manner I feel quite sure that this time can soon be brought to pass.

"In spite of the small number of lynchings for the year I feel that in several instances innocent persons were put to death. At Greenville, Ga., a black man was lynched for murder. A few days later another person confessed to the crime. Two apparently innocent colored persons were put to death at Germantown, Ky. The *Memphis Commercial Appeal*, in commenting on this lynching, said: "These negroes had furnished no possible motive for the deed."

"At Houston, Miss., a colored man accused of murder was lynched. It was later discovered that the wrong man had been put to death. At Spartanburg, S. C., through the bravery of the sheriff, a mob was prevented from lynching a